



# THE GARZETTE



MAY 1998

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 5

## Local Tornado Brings Out The Best



Photo by Ike Chapman, KE4GYM

The Tornado that hit the Atlanta Metro in April may have brought damage and despair to the community, but it also brought out the best in a lot of folks. Here in Gwinnett County was no exception! Overall, the consensus from a lot of different people, was that professionalism and kindness was abound in the many volunteers that came out to help. Even in the midst of their own misfortune, with downed trees and damage to their home, some Hams made their way to Red Cross headquarters to volunteer. One Ham barely getting his home prepared with tarps and such to hold back a few additional elements made it down for the next several days for volunteer duty. Though there are many many folks to recognize and to thank, next time you see Jan Jubon, K2HJ give his a pat on the back for his selflessness and dedication. Again, there were many other volunteers just as dedicated, each working very hard and each deserving a medal. Lets all continue to enjoy Amateur Radio the way we do including participating in those nets and exercises aimed at honing our emergency preparedness skills so when the next call to duty comes we'll shine just as bright.

-Ed



Ike Chapman, KE4GYM was a shining example of the Ham involvement. As shown on Fox 5 News, Ike relays some instructions to another Ham on an Emergency Response Vehicle.

### Meeting Moved!!

The next meeting will be on Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, at the Gwinnett Justice Administration Center, Main Auditorium, 75 Langley Drive, Lawrenceville.

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## The GARZETTE

The GARZETTE is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

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If possible, submit items in ASCII text format or Microsoft Word format by email to ad4pz@aol.com. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted on an IBM formatted disk or via email as an unencoded file attachment.

Contact the editor for other format compatibility or other means of transfer.

**Deadline for submissions is the first of each month.**

GARZETTE Editor

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The GARZETTE is created on a P5-133 MHz computer using Adobe Pagemaker 6.5 running Windows 95.

Paul Brisendine, K4HCM will be assisting each month with the labels, postage and other GARZETTE preparations for mailing. Thank You Paul!!

All correspondence relating to articles posted in The GARZETTE or for information concerning advertisement rates for The GARZETTE should be directed to the following address:

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Lilburn, GA 30048  
Attn: Newsletter Editor

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## The President's Pen

By Ike Chapman, KE4GYM



### Who knew?

Last month I wrote that our experiences at assisting the Red Cross operations after the tornado in Hall County would pay off since the next one could very well be in our backyard. Well, I'm out of the sooth saying business. This one struck too close to home, in fact it did strike some of our members' homes and/or offices.

We are fortunate to have in Gwinnett County an active Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) group. Lowry Rouse, KM4Z, the ARRL Emergency Coordinator for Gwinnett County, has provided the leadership and organization to put in place a team of amateur radio operators for weather spotting and disaster relief. It is important to note that this was an ARES operation and not a **GARS** operation. While it's true that most of the people on the roster for Gwinnett County ARES are **GARS** members, joining **GARS** does not automatically put you on the ARES roster. ARES is totally separate organization and as a ARRL Special Service Club, **GARS** supports ARES in any way possible, such as the use of our communications network for drills, weekly nets, and during times of actual emergencies. ARES does not collect any dues or require you to have specific equipment. What is required is an amateur radio license and the willingness to practice and serve when the time comes. If you are not currently a member of ARES then I challenge you to look up Lowry or one of the Assistant Emergency Coordinators at our next meeting, get an ARES application and join up.

I've had many people, both hams and non-hams, tell me over the past few weeks that their best source of information during the severe thunderstorms and the tornado on April 8<sup>th</sup>, was the ARES/Skywarn net on the **GARS** two meter repeater. Then as soon as the tornado passed, Lowry and his ARES group organized a second net on a different repeater to begin taking damage reports to pass to the Gwinnett County authorities and to the Red Cross. While I'm sure that no-

body had planned for this occurrence, it was quick thinking to get the second net started since we still had severe weather in the area and the possibility of more coming into the area and the need for the Skywarn net was still there. The damage assessment net was at first taken to the **GARS** 440 MHz repeater and then moved to the Atlanta Radio Club's two meter repeater on the WFOX tower. During the next four days, the Gwinnett ARES group would run two nets, one for Red Cross operations and mass care and one for Red Cross damage assessment. The operations and mass care net would then run for an additional week with various levels of staffing.

Now for the soapbox. We are all members of the amateur radio service and it is the service that we provide that gives us access the frequencies that we presently enjoy. In this day and age of frequency auctions we have seen several groups that have coveted various parts of our spectrum during the past few years. So far we've been able to weather these attempts to have our frequencies reallocated but that doesn't mean that another group won't try again. The reason that we have been successful in keeping our frequencies is that we point to our efforts to provide communication services in time of need and emergency.

Yes, amateur radio is a hobby to most of us but it is a hobby with strings attached. Those strings require us to be prepared to assist during emergencies and to provide communications when and where we can. Our assistance to the Red Cross during the past few weeks is more than vivid proof of that need and that responsibility. I have been told that a report was sent to the national offices of the Red Cross stating that one of the main reasons that the disaster relief and damage assessment operations went so smoothly here was the involvement of amateur radio from the very start.

But it's not just times of disaster that we need to provide communications for pub-





## Ares SkyWarn

By Lowry Rouse, KM4Z  
Gwinnett Co. E.C.



Whew, a lot can happen in a month's time period. Last month as I wrote this article, my thoughts were on being as prepared as possible in the event of a disaster. Now it's, "It happened. Where do we go from here!". Between Friday morning, March 20th (tornado in Hall Co.) and Thursday morning April 9<sup>th</sup> (Gwinnett's), we saw in real life what destruction a tornado can do. And of course the ones listening to the SKYWARN net will never forget Jeff (KD4GPI) saying "Where's the tornado?" and Tom (KU4CK) answering "It's at my house!". This conversation took place shortly after 1am Thursday morning. A wind gust of 81mph was recorded on Tom's Peet Bros. weather station at 1:02am. More information from the weather station was unobtainable because that wind gust dismantled Tom's antenna system on which the station instruments were located.

A lot of articles will be written on the specific's of the Hall Co. involvement and Gwinnetts, so I won't write another one, but instead dwell on pro's and con's I personally experienced from an EC's point of view.

No. 1 - My biggest concern was getting volunteers to help out. Yes, there are always several die-hard energetic volunteers that will always be there whenever you need them and God bless you for being there. But as I found out, those several people aren't enough to do the job on a scale of the events we just experienced. For a means of clarification, here is a rundown of volunteers during the Gwinnett tornado operations: Total number of participants {81}, of those about 60 to 65% were from Gwinnett ARES or GARS the rest from other clubs and ARES groups. Now lets look at ARES and club statistics: Gwinnett ARES {93 members}, GARS {over 300 members} Metro-Atlanta hams (several thousand). Out of those 81 volunteers, about 15 to 20 literally worked

every day during the whole week of emergency activation and a very special thank-you for that dedication. Don't let the fact a few people were not needed at a particular time make you think that enough volunteers were available. We always within 1 to 2 hours used every single person that volunteered and could have used more. This is one of the facts I've learned during the past month; when you volunteer, be ready to sit and wait because when you're needed, you're needed immediately. You may have to sit around and feel in the way a little while, but you become very important and useful when the call comes for another communicator. Bottom-line thought here is; with so many hams available, why is so much time needed to get volunteers to help out when there should be a waiting list of volunteers showing up. By more hams participating, less time from each individual would be needed and thus help keep burn-out from occurring. Even if you're not a member of a club or ARES group, but you're a ham, you are still obligated to do your share of community service and thus help prove the necessity of Amateur Radio to the world and justify our frequency privileges.

No. 2 - Even with many good repeaters available to us in the Metro-Atlanta area, sometimes just having a handheld radio with rubber duck antenna isn't adequate for reliable communications. Suggestions to help increase handheld reliability are; have a magnetic base and antenna to externally mount on vehicle, cigarette lighter adapter and/or extra battery packs, small amplifier, or a standard mobile unit with full power (50 watts) capability. Remember that communications may have to go to simplex and more powerful radios would be an advantage.

## JUNE Birthdays Within GARS

By Jack Herndon, WU4H

2	KE4VWP	Paul Matchette
2	KE4TVA	Bill Van Huynhoven
3	KD4VOJ	Rick Morris
6	{ASC}	James Watts
6	KE4CWC	James Gudgalis
6	WA4ETN	Robert Varone
8	KF4EOO	Meredith Holt
10	KD4ZEN	Dean Gambrel
10	K2HJ	Jan Jubon
13	KE4IHD	Ralph Matchette
17	KE4QBE	Joan Grant
17	KC7VY	Rich Snider
18	KD4KVV	Terry Lewis
19	WB2SQS	Michael Gioka
20	KD4HLV	Marty Ernst
20	KA9GJL	Ray Kaplan
23	K4UOZ	Raymond Elrod Jr
24	W4RAC	Robert Cates
27	K9AOK	John Sokol
30	N1TWX	Winslow Jackson

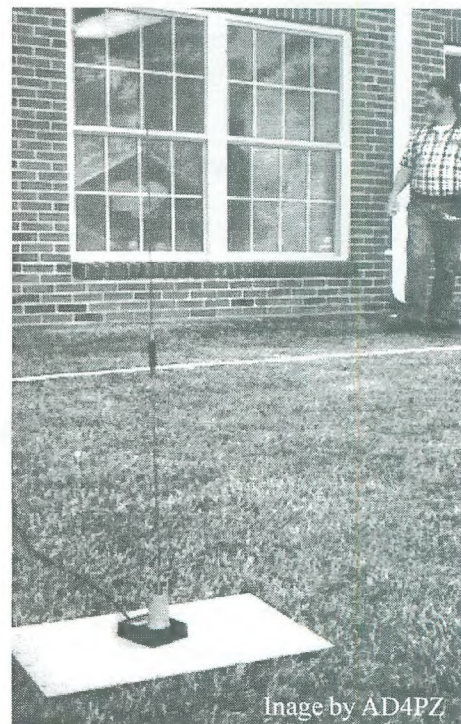


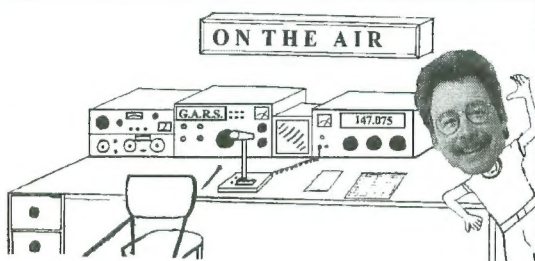
Image by AD4PZ

Seen here just outside of base operations in Norcross is the base antenna. A magnetic antenna and a steel plate as 'ground plane' worked just fine.

*Continued on page 9*



**On The Air  
with  
David Schulte  
KT4NK  
by  
Karl Phillips, K4GZZ**



This month's "On the Air" features - David Schulte - KT4NK. David was born in Mount Prospect, Illinois and attended both grammar and high school there. David as a resident of Mount Prospect until 1980.

At the age of 13, David got interested in radio and became a citizens band operator. A local ham had passed away and the man's wife offered some of his equipment to David. David helped her catalogue his remaining equipment and accessories so she could sell them. This ham had over 5,000 tubes and an old CB radio that weighed around 90 pounds.

David moved to Atlanta in 1980. Before moving to Atlanta, he worked for C and G Associates as a bench technician. This company was a copier company specializing in several high tech copier components, including densitometers. These devices were used to measure the density of the toner used in the copiers. David was employed there for about 2 and one half years. After that, David worked for Infotext, which was another copier company. There he did micro based logging. Following his employment at Infotext he went on to work for Northrup Defense Systems.

After moving to Atlanta in 1980, David went to work for a company called Nimslo. This company specialized in 3D photography. After Nimslo, David went to work for Quadram. Quadram was purchased by National Semiconductor. David worked for them for 8 1/2 years. David is currently employed at Checkmate in Alpharetta. They manufacture micro-automation equipment. During most of the 1980's David's interest in radio took a semi-back seat to concentrating on spending time with his wife, Cathy and their

children. But in 1995, David got reacquainted with ham radio.

In January of 1995, David began to work on his Technician license and began looking into testing sessions. David found Howie (W4NVF). Now there's a real shocker, right folks? In March, David passed his Technician test and became KE4WSJ. In June, David passed his Tech-Plus test. He really wanted those 10 meter privileges badly!! He passed his General in March of 1996 and barely three DAYS later passed his Advanced- becoming KT4NK. David joined GARS in July of 1995.

David and his wife, Cathy live in Lawrenceville with their three children - Jonathan-12, Jenna-9 and Julie-10. Jenna and Julie could care less about ham radio. They like communicating via the telephone. Those kind of DX contacts can get rather expensive !!! On the other hand, Jonathan has shown interest in ham radio and is currently taking his time learning the code. He's taking it slow and David is quick to point out that he is not pushing Jonathan, just letting him absorb it all at his own speed.

David owns two Kenwood TS-450's....one for the mobile and one for home use. Antenna wise- David has a 10 meter Cushcraft one half wave and an off-center fed Fritzel. David's favorite band is, without question 17 meters. He works 17 daily, both mobile and at home. He says the hams on 17 are very friendly and laid back. One morning, while on the way to work, David worked Russia, Switzerland, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. I could really go for operating 17 meters mobile with those kind of contacts.

David does have another rather interesting hobby. He raises lizards. He has 9 couples. Now my question is...are these couples just dating, married or liv-

ing together ??? They are Yemen chameleons. David says that a week old chameleon can sell for as much as \$50. They can lay 50-70 eggs and hatch in between 144-200 days.

David also enjoys anything involving electronics. Get this !! David has built a 3/4 million volt generator that will throw a spark 1 and 1/2 to 2 feet !!!! I'd be keeping those lizards away from that thing for sure, David.

David enjoys being a member of the GARS club and if his family's vacation schedule works out okay, he will be at Field Day this year. He was on vacation last year during field day but was able to work our field day station K4HS from Lake Geneva, Wisconsin.

David is a real personable guy. He's pretty doggone knowledgeable about electronics too. David is on the GARS 147.075 machine early in the mornings and sometimes during afternoon drive time. Stop by and say hello to him.

See you all next month for another installment of "On the Air".

73 - Karl  
K4GZZ

## GARS Packet BBS Back Online

Just to let you know that the GARS Packet BBS is back online at the repeater site. The access Frequency is 145.070. To connect to the BBS you can use either KD6CLO or the BBS alias GARS to connect. The "LAW LAN" node, KD6CLO-7/LAW is also running on 145.070. Please feel free to use the BBS to its fullest extent and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to packet or email me.

Thanks and 73

John Farr, KD6CLO  
Digital Radio Chairman  
Digital Radio Committee



## My Volunteer Experience

By Karl Phillips - K4GZZ

The opportunity to work with the Red Cross disaster relief team came for me on Saturday, April 18th. My opportunity to help with the north hall county effort never materialized and it was beginning to look like I would be unable to help during the dunwoody and Gwinnett County Efforts either.

Lowry (KM4Z) had called me the night of Wednesday April 15th but due to my wife having to have surgery, I couldn't commit. Luckily, she felt good enough for me to attend the gars meeting on the 16th and I Volunteered to help with communications on the following Saturday.

I arrived at the old Home Depot building on Crescent Drive in Norcross at 8 a.m. And followed one of the supply trucks and team vehicles to Peachtree Middle Sschool and teamed up with our supply truck driver, Dr. Tom Gable. Also with us was a channel 5 cameraman, Randy Carter from the American Red Cross and several members of Boy Scout troupe 266. Two scoutmasters were also there along with a girl named Holly, who was an AT&T employee. We spent the next 4 1/2 hours delivering supplies to the clients effected by the tornadoes in the Dunwoody area.

I felt very good about my volunteering and was able to see first hand, at ground zero, the devastation that looked so much worse than it did on television. Tornadoes are weird. They zig and they zag. They sit down then get back up. I saw several instances where a house was ripped apart, exposing the occupants very bedroom for all passers by to see. Next to that house, a man calmly mows his beautifully manicured lawn, his house unaffected by the fury of the storm that totally destroyed his neighbors house. Streets were littered with everything, dead powerlines were everywhere. Limbs, trash, bottles and everything else that could fly through the air lay along side and streets.

We cruised Delverton road, it was total devastation. Families literally were moving out of their homes, that were now nothing more than gutted out shells. This was truly a sobering experience for me.

I would like to thank those volunteers that I spent the day with in the relief effort. The kids in the van worked very hard to deliver the supplies to the residents effected and they expressed their appreciation. Thanks to Randy of the American Red Cross and Dr. Tom.



Image by Scott Hartlage, KF4PWI

**Left** is one of the ERV Vehicles handing out meals.

**Right** is just another unfortunate home owner.

## Teenagers Are Great

by Pickett Cummins, AD4S

Don't let anyone tell you otherwise. For those of you who were not privileged to participate or listen to ARES net during the recent Gwinnett County disaster, we had several young adults who did themselves and amateur radio real credit.

While I hesitate to be specific for fear of leaving someone out, I have to congratulate Jeff Franklin, KE4IGD and Lou Manglass, III, N4WWU. These guys really did a great job. Not once during the 7 days that the net was in progress did I hear either one of them violate net protocol. They did not make extemporaneous speeches and they did not try to make contacts without going through the net control. Their comments were brief and precise and benefited the operations that they were assigned to.

Unfortunately, I can't say the same thing for all of the older and longer licensed hams that were participating. Even after 7 days, there were still radio operators who would not, or could not, abide by the net protocols and felt constrained to make their transmissions as wordy as possible.

In any event, my GARS cap is certainly off to the two young men mentioned above and to all of the fine amateurs that assisted in this most admirable example of what the FCC had in mind when they created Part 97.

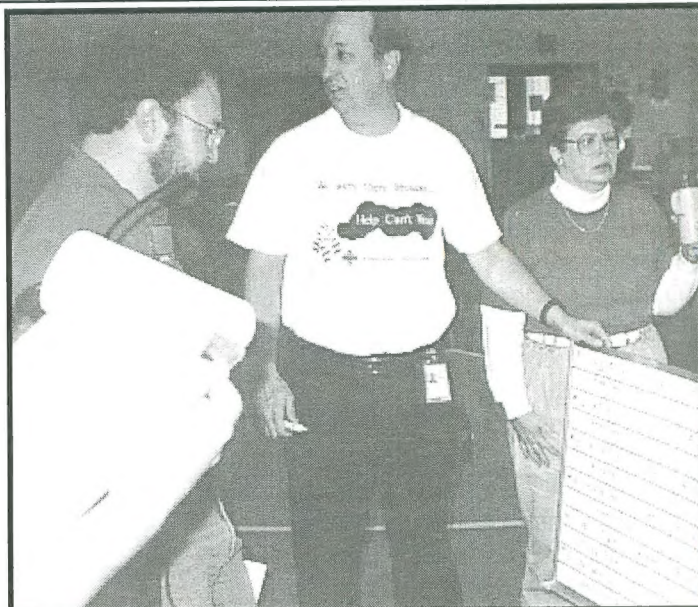


Image by Scott Hartlage, KF4PWI



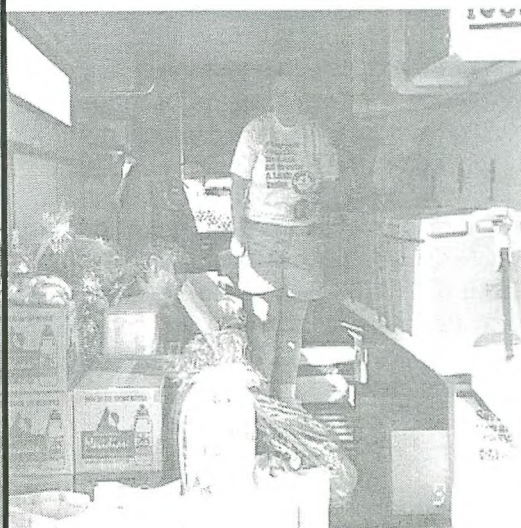


A bunch of tired but gradified hams await their next assignment. Left to Right: NY4F, KE4YZS, AD4MI, WE5O, KD4CVR



Eddie Foust, WD4JEM Checks the assignment board at headquarters.

Photos by:  
Ike Chapman, KE4GYM  
Joe Biddle, AD4PZ





## Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society APRIL Meeting Minutes

by John Sokol, K9AOK - Secretary

**General Meeting Minutes for Date: 04 / 16 / 1998 Central Baptist Church, Lawrenceville, GA**

**Called to Order at 19:37 local By:** President, Ike Chapman, KE4GYM

**Attendance:**

General Attendance: 56 signed the roster, 3 new members present, 8 visitors (some did not sign roster)

Executive: Ike, KE4GYM; Marty, KE4MLH; John, K9AOK; Randy, K4HS; Kevin, KF4HFN

Committee Chairs: Mike, K4HBI; Susan, AF4FO; Jack, WU4H; Joe, AD4PZ; Gene, KF4NOG; Mark, KD3GC; David, KT4NK; Eddie, WD4JEM; Win, N1TWX; John, KF4MZD; Jeff, KF4NBD

The membership and visitors were introduced.

**Notices Read:**

N1TWX: We are in need of volunteers for the March of Dimes Walk-a-thon held in Lawrenceville on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 1998. Please contact him to volunteer.

KE4MLH: The Atlanta Radio Club (ARC) has repeaters on the FOX tower. Those frequencies are: 145.350, 444.450 and 224.560. If the GARS repeater is busy, feel free to access the ARC machine, and if so inclined .. support the use of the machine with an ARC membership.

KE4MLH: The GARS Picnic has been moved ... both location and date!! It has been moved back to Fort Yargo, and it will be held on Saturday AUGUST 29<sup>th</sup>. If you are going to camp, get your reservations in NOW. It books up fast. Come out and have a great time with the fellowship of your club.

KE4GYM: The May General Meeting has been relocated, due to previous commitment by this church. The meeting will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in May, or on MAY 18<sup>th</sup>, and it will be held in the Main Auditorium of the *Gwinnett Justice and Administration Center*, in Lawrenceville. Ms. Capri Bolton of the American Red Cross was one of our visitors tonight. She had thanked all of those GARS and/or ARES members that had donated their time to the Tornado Disaster last week. She has invited us to a Volunteer Appreciation Bar-B-Que to be held next Wednesday evening, at the Red Cross Center, near the Lucent Technologies Building in Norcross. Precise details will be provided as they are formulated. Information will be disseminated via the net.

Many, many thanks and appreciation were bestowed upon: Lowry Rouse, KM4Z, for his involvement in the ARES, Fred Runkle, K4KAZ, for his involvement in both ARES and the Red Cross, Eddie Foust, KD4JEM and Howie Gould, W4NVF, for their time and energies with the repeater upkeep and maintenance. Without their work, the communications last week would have been near impossible.

**Program:** The program tonight was presented by Tom Crowell, KU4CK. Tom's original presentation was going to be on how the American Red Cross helped those struck by disaster in Hall and White counties, however, with the tornadoes that struck Gwinnett County on April 9<sup>th</sup>, the presentation covered both disasters. Also a very concise overview of the American Red Cross was presented, and a call for volunteers was offered. Fred Runkle, K4KAZ, also spoke, and commended the entire GARS/ARES staff for a job well done! Program concluded, and comments were presented by: Lowry Rouse, KM4Z, announced the ARES meetings are now being held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, from 1930-2100 at the Gwinnett Medical Center. All interested parties are invited to attend. Pat Runkle, KC4DOO, was introduced, and commended the work done by GARS/ARES. Ike Chapman, KE4GYM invited any, and all, who participated in this function to write a few lines, to a story, about their experiences and forward it on to our GARZETTE editor, Joe Biddle, AD4PZ.

**New Membership:** 4 persons were introduced for membership into GARS. Those introduced were: WN4S - Jim Long, KF4WSR - Howard Crabtree, KF4KSE - William Moon, Ruth Reginella, spouse of KF4RMA, Kevin Berry, Maeve Berry, Daughter of KF4RMA, Kevin Berry. All were voted into membership unanimously. Current Membership is at 322

**Comments from the Floor:** Comments and accolades regarding the responses to the Gwinnett Disaster were provided by: KE4GYM-Ike, KM4Z-Lowry, KD3GC-Mark, AD4PZ-Joe, K9AOK-John, WD4JEM-Eddie,

**Treasurer's Report:** by Randy Drescher, K4HS. Balance in the General Account : \$4,273.38

(a copy of the budget report has been filed with the secretary)

The 6-meter fund was at \$227.00 before the meeting tonight. There were 2 donations, totalling \$115 received tonight, making the 6-meter fund balance \$342.00

The Next Executive Board Meeting to be held on Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, location to be determined

The Next General Meeting to be held on Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, at the GJAC, Main Auditorium

Meeting Adjourned at 21:43 local By: President Ike Chapman, KE4GYM

Following the General Meeting, a brief Executive Board Meeting was held. All 5 members of the Executive Board were present. One order of business was conducted. The Club Trustee, J. Pickett Cummins, AD4S has requested to step down. C. Randy Drescher, K4HS has offered to take on the task. The vote was unanimous.



## ...The President's Pen

*...Continued from page 1*

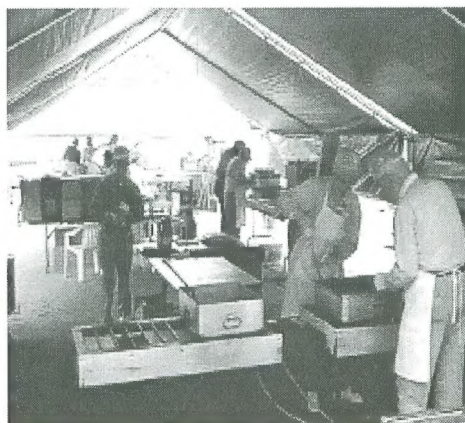
lic service events. All of the other events we cover, such as parades, walkathons, bike rides, etc., give up valuable practice for those times when we need to go into the disaster relief mode. They also give us visibility in the community and when it comes time to put up the fight for our frequencies or other issues such as tower ordinances then we have this work to point to as proof of our value to the community. But it takes commitment and manpower to make these events happen. The commitment comes from **GARS** and **ARES** as organizations to make sure that the community knows we are here and ready to assist when needed. The other part of the equation is that we need our members to make commitments to be ready to serve so that we have the manpower to staff these events.

Okay, off the soapbox. But I've got a few reminders before I sign off for this month. Don't forget that for this month only, the meeting day and location has been changed. We will meet on Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> in the auditorium at the Gwinnett Justice and Administration. The change was necessary because of a conflict with a preschool graduation at the church and the J&A was booked for high school graduations, hence the Monday night meeting.

Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup> is the annual Memorial Day Parade in Dacula and we will be providing communications again this year. Bill Ahls, KE4EIH is the coordinator, so give him a call to help out. On Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> we will be covering a 5K run in Buford sponsored by the Buford High School athletic boosters. I should be able to announce the event coordinator by the time we meet in May so please keep this date in mind to help out. The Atlanta Radio Club holds its annual Hamfest on Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup> and **GARS** has volunteered to help out by running the talk-in station and providing public address announcers. All of those assisting will get a free pass to the hamfest, contact me if you're interested.

And before I finish, a reminder of the weekly happenings. Monday night at 9:00 is the weekly **ARES** net on the **GARS** two meter repeater, Tuesday night at 8:00 is the **GARS** Want, Swap, Sell, and Information net, and Tuesday night at 9:00 is the **GARS**

Code Practice net. Saturday morning at 8:00 is the weekly **GARS** Family Breakfast at the Steak N' Shake in Lawrenceville. I hope to hear or see you at one of these events in the coming weeks and certainly look forward to seeing you at the meeting in May.



Images by Scott Hartlage, KF4PWI



**WELCOME!**  
**NEW**  
**MEMBERS**

Please join me in welcoming our newest **GARS** members:

WN4S - Jim Long  
KF4WSR - Howard Crabtree  
KF4KSE - William Moon  
Ruth Reginella (Mrs. KF4RMA)  
Maeve Berry (1st Harmonic of KF4RMA and Ruth Reginella)

Best regards,  
Jack - WU4H  
Membership Chairman



### ...Ares/SkyWarn

...Continued from page 3

No.3 - Use all equipment available to its full advantage. For instance, I could have ask to use GARS portable tower and set up a simplex NCS for the damage assessment teams as well as the ERV's. From this recent experience and having several groups of emergency services to provide for, better plans need to be formulated as how to best provide communications in a disaster area. Keep in mind here, that eventually we will be serving more than just the Red Cross. We hope to be involved with Gwinnett Co. Emergency Services and that will be several new agencies that will sending traffic via the repeater. Other options are, use packet radio to disseminate messages, 440 MHz. frequencies or 220 MHz. could be utilized, or maybe put together a portable repeater, set it up on the club tower in the middle of the disaster area and let it be powered by a generator or storage batteries.

No. 4 - Even though the main reason we formally ended communications with the Red Cross field personnel was that no volunteers were coming forward to help, it still brought up a question, "How long should a group commit their services after the initial danger is over. Of course it's easy to determine that if you have no volunteers to give them, then the service is finished. But what if we did have a continuous line-up of hams to support an agency, how long should we continue an organized and controlled net? Well, I don't have an answer yet to that one. It's definitely one that will come up for discussion in the planning committee meeting soon.

No. 5 - One more thought, I'm running out of available Garzzette space, that was very important to me and to several people who confided in me with their thoughts, was the overwhelming feeling of enjoyment, love, spiritual closeness, excitement, self worth, giving a neighbor a helping hand, or whatever inner, warm emotion that comes from helping those in need. One person said that he felt more a part of the Amateur Radio community performing public service work than any contest, DX chasing, traffic handling, county hunting, or certificate hunting could

have ever given him. Don't believe me? Ask any of the ones who handed out Easter baskets to the kids on Sunday morning from the ERV's, saw tears in their eyes and was thanked by a distraught parent who said with all that has happened, they hadn't ever imagined that their kids would have any kind of Easter day, let alone get an Easter basket too. A heart felt thank-you was what they said to our volunteers. Thank-you. Worth more than gold? I suppose the value of things is different to different people but there was some rich feeling people on Sunday, April 12th, 1998.

That's only a few of the ideas, problems, solutions, etc., that came to mind during the disasters. More discussion on these ideas and problems will be given at the Gwinnett ARES monthly meetings. Oh, you didn't hear? Second Tuesday of each month, ARES meeting will be held at Gwinnett Medical Center classroom wing. Time is 7:30 to 9pm. Listen to Monday ARES net or check web page for more information. Mike Campbell (KF4HLM) is heading up this program and can be contacted for information. Check club roster for his telephone number.

To all who helped, from me to you, a big "THANKS". See ya next month.

♦♦♦



Make sure to get your own GARS Badge. To order, call or email Susan Swiderski, AF4FO

### Ham Tag Info

I have just been to the Gwinnett J&A building to take care of my call plates. Yes, you can submit your call plate application to the J&A and get a temp tag until your plates come in the mail. No more waiting for 1 to 2 years to get your plates, now all you have to do is fill out the MV-9 form, bring a copy of your license, and the license plate from your vehicle and get you temp tag. The waiting period is 90 days to get your tags in the mail and that is it. The only thing is that the forms have to be in by the dates set ....Jan 1 - July 31. After those dates, you'll have to wait until next year from what I have been told at the tag office.

John Farr, KD6CLO



Image by Scott Hartlage, KE4PWI

### GARS Electronic Mail List

If you have an EMail address and have not yet registered it with the club and wish to do so, please send a message to **Jack Herndon, WU4H** and request to be added to the list.

Send to: [wu4h@geocities.com](mailto:wu4h@geocities.com)

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## Taxi Drivers Get the Boot From Illegal 10 Meter Usage

As a follow up to an article I re-published in the March GARZETTE on Taxi drivers using 10 meters, below is a follow up action story of what's happening now.

-Ed

### REPORT: NYC TAXIS ABANDONING 10 METERS

Under heavy pressure from authorities and from increased Amateur Radio activity, taxicab operators in The Big Apple reportedly are moving off 10 meters in droves, says Gerry Smith, W6TER, of New York. Smith heads an ad hoc committee that's been working for more than a year in the Hudson Division to clean up the problem. "Sure, there is a straggler or two, but for the most part, the band is clean," Smith announced recently in a report published in The Hudson Loop newsletter distributed to ARRL Hudson Division hams. Smith says that he was able to work Argentina recently on 28.045 MHz, one of the frequencies most often used by the cabbies.

ARRL Hudson Division Director Frank Fallon, N2FF, says Smith contacted him in early 1997 about starting up the ad hoc group to attack the problem. "I was honestly not too hopeful that we would be able to solve a problem that was almost ten years old," Fallon conceded. "Now, I'm no longer skeptical of what can be accomplished."

Smith credited a crackdown by the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) and the FCC for the exodus and called it "the largest successful enforcement action ever." During mandatory quarterly inspections, the FCC paid a visit and warned drivers with illegal radios that future violations could result in hefty fines. For its part, the TLC mailed an industry notice to taxi owners, fleet shops and repair stations warning the cabbies of possible enforcement action. To help the process, the ad hoc committee purchased frequency counters for the TLC to use in its regular inspections and during airport raids and street inspections and is providing training in their use. The problem is potentially huge. There are

some 44,000 New York City cabbies and more than 12,000 cabs. Drivers supply their own radios. Some 1500 or more illegal radios were believed to be in operation.

At its January meeting, the ARRL Board of Directors applauded actions by the FCC and the TLC to crack down on illegal use of the 10-meter band by taxi drivers. The Board urged confiscation of equipment and fines to drivers who fail to comply, as well as removal of illegal transmitters from all cabs.

Smith praised the "tremendous cooperation" between the TLC and the ad hoc committee, which also includes Fallon, RF engineer Marvin Bronstein, K2VHW, and attorney Arnold Katz, W2QK. A ham since 1954, Smith is a telecommunications consultant.

"The days of no fines are over with," he said, citing a pledge by the TLC to enforce its ban on illegal radios by imposing fines of up to \$300. Smith encouraged hams to use 10 meters regularly as a way to deter interlopers and to report CB-type activity on the band.

Fallon hopes the success with the taxi radios indicates the "new mood" at FCC in enforcement. But he says hams will continue to monitor compliance. "The best part of the entire effort is to attend a New York City Amateur Radio club meeting and hear members say, 'Yea! The cabs are gone!' Fallon said.

-Via The ARRL Letter-

## Radio Station License Revocation

The FCC has revoked a Texas radio station's license after a judge's finding that the owner engaged in a pattern of outright falsehoods, evasiveness and deception.

The Commission's action was issued on Wednesday, April 22nd. It was the first revocation of a station's license since 1993.

## GARS Officers 1998-1999

### President

Ike Chapman, KE4GYM (770)339-8123

### Vice President

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### Secretary

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### Rookie Radio

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### Field Day

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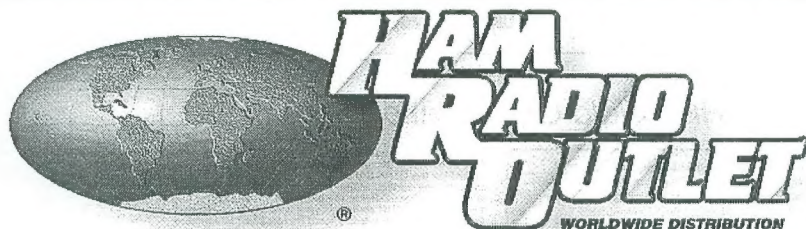
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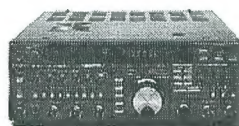
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## Metro Atlanta Club Meetings

## First Tuesday

## Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneers

Old Hickory House, 5490 Chamblee/Dunwoody Rd,  
Dunwoody. Dutch dinner is at 6:30PM, followed by  
meeting. Talk In 145.410(-)

## First Tuesday

## Kennehoochee ARC

First United Methodist Church in Marietta.  
Meeting begins at 7:30pm. Talk In 146.88(-)

## First Wednesday

## HamWatch

Alpha Soda Restaurant, Haynes Bridge Road, Alpharetta,  
Dinner at 6:30PM. Meeting at 7:30PM

## First Thursday

## N.E. Ga ARC

Jefferson Civic Center, off of Memorial Dr. toward  
Winder from Jefferson. Meeting is at 6:30PM. Talk In -  
147.225(+)

## Atlanta Radio Club

Georgia Power Federal Credit Union, 4900 Ashford  
Dunwoody Road, 1 Mile North of Perimeter Mall. Meeting  
is at 7:30PM Talk In -146.820(-)

## Second Wednesday

## North Fulton Radio League

Alpharetta Diner Restaurant, Haynes Bridge Road,  
Alpharetta, Diner at 6:30PM. Meeting at 7:30PM Talk In -  
145.47(-)

## Second Thursday

## Alford Memorial Radio Club

Elks Lodge on Memorial Drive. Dinner at 6:00PM Meeting  
at 7:30PM. Talk In - 146.760(-)

## Second Saturday

## East Atlanta LAN

Scott Blvd Baptist Church in Decatur. Meeting is at  
10:00AM. Talk In - 145.410(-)

## 3rd THURSDAY

## Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

Central Baptist Church in Lawrenceville. Meeting begins  
at 7:30 in the fellowship hall. Talk In-147.075(+)

♦ ♦ ♦

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MEMBER  
MILLION DOLLAR CLUB





# THE GARZETTE MAY 1998

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
P.O. Box 88  
Lilburn, GA 30048



The next meeting will be on Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, at the Gwinnett Justice Administration Center, Main Auditorium, 75 Langley Drive, Lawrenceville.

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THE GARZETTE

MAY 1998

## Metro Atlanta Test Sessions

**GARS** Publishes Metro Area VE/VEC Exam Schedules as a Service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions.

1st Sunday - 2:00pm (except Jul&Sep.)

Terry Jones, K4FB 770-967-6364  
Johnson High School WCARS VEC  
3305 Poplar Springs RD, Gainesville

1st Saturday - 9:00AM

George White, KN4NG 361-6850  
Clayton Co. Emergency Mgmt. Bldg. 7496  
N. McDonough St. - Jonesboro

2nd Tuesday - 7:00PM

Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA 498-7759  
Walton EMC, 3645 Lenora Church Rd,  
Snellville

2nd Saturday - 8:30AM - CA VEC

Hal Martin, KI4RD - 978-9160  
Stone Mountain Methodist Church  
5312 West Mountain St., Stone Mtn.

3rd Saturdays - 9:00AM - CA VEC

Larry Huff, WA4CQZ - 955-3171  
Marietta First United Methodist Church 56  
Whitlock Ave, Room 305

4th Sunday- 2:30PM - ARRL VEC  
Steve Schmidt, KR4DL - 242-6142  
Episcopal Church of the Atonement  
Highpoint Rd, Atlanta

4th Tuesday - 7:00PM ARRL VEC  
Jessie Clower, KB4WFK - 942-6466  
United Way Service Center  
6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville,  
GA

4th Friday - 7:00PM  
W5YI-VEC  
Howie Gould, W4NVF 921-8362  
St. John Neumann Church  
801 Tom Smith Rd, off Five Forks  
Trickum Rd, Lilburn  
Headphones Provided!

## Metro Area Nets And Roundtables

Mon	50.135	8:30PM	Regional 6 Meter SSB Net
Mon	147.21+	8:00PM	Conyers ARES Net t-162.2
Mon	145.45-	8:00PM	ARES Net (Decatur)
Mon	145.47-	8:00PM	North Fulton ARL Net
Mon	145.41-	8:30PM	MATPARC Net
Mon	3.975	8:00PM	Swap Net
Mon	147.075+	9:00PM	Gwinnett ARES Net
Tue	147.075+	8:00PM	GARS Weekly Net
Tue	147.075+	9:00PM	GARS CW Practice
Tue	145.47-	10:30PM	Insomniac Net
Tue	28.420	7:30PM	Ten Meter Traders Net
Wed	145.41	11:30AM	Boy Scout Youth Net
Wed	145.41-	8:00PM	Chapter 49, QCWA Net
Wed	146.67-	9:00PM	LARC Net
Thu	146.88-	8:30PM	Kennehoochee ARC
Thu	147.225+	8:00PM	NE Ga ARC
Thu	147.15	8:00PM	simplex
Thu	145.41-	9:30PM	AMSAT
Thu	427.25ATV	9:00PM	Amateur Television, ATV
	146.655 Voice		
Fri	3.898	8:00PM	GA Traders Net
Fri	145.47-	8:00PM	NFARL Youth Net
Fri	146.45-	Midnight	Turnip Truck Net
Sat	7.275	8:00AM	Swap Net
Sat	3.857	9:00AM	Chapter 49, QCWA Net
Sat	146.45-	Midnight	Turnip Truck Net
Sun	146.82-	8:00PM	ARC Net
Sun	146.76-	7:00PM	Roundtable AMRC t-107.2
Sun	7.275	9:00AM	GA Traders Net
Sun	3.983	5:00PM	GA ARES
Daily	146.76-	Noon	Brown Bag Net t-107.2
Daily	146.88-	11:00PM	Late Nite Owl Net
Daily	146.79-	8:00PM	Sassafras Mtn.
Daily	3.975	6:00PM	WX & Skywarn

This is a "living list", meaning it is constantly changing. If you know of additions or changes to it please contact the Editor.